

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 currently remain in the application.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The examiner rejected claims 1-9, 11-23 and 25-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilshire (6,409,602) in view of Vuong et al., U.S Patent 5,762, 552. The applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

In the present invention, as recited in claim 27, a first gaming machine is capable of “receiving first game software for the game selection stored in the memory from the second gaming machine via the network executing the first game software on the first gaming machine to generate a game outcome for the game selection on the first gaming machine.” An advantage of this approach is that the download time required to transfer game software between gaming machines may be much faster than the download time between a gaming machine and a remote server. Applicant respectfully submits that Wiltshire, Vuong, or the combination of Wiltshire and Vuong do not teach this limitation for the reasons described as follows.

As the Examiner has stated in the Office Action, “*Wiltshire does not disclose that the server/host gaming machine (Figure 1D, item 110) is configured to play a game.*” In addition, as is also discussed below with respect to Vuong, Applicant respectfully submits that the clients in Wiltshire are not configured to generate game outcomes because the game outcomes are always generated on the host server 110. In FIG. 2, it shows that the host executes the game program (210) and the client receives a video stream of the game outcome from the host (235). Further, in the abstract it states that the gaming programs are executed entirely on the host computer. In FIG. 3, it shows that a client program may be downloaded to the client from a website. However, the client program does not allow the client to generate a game outcome. In the description of FIG. 1C (Col. 4, 43-49), it states that the client computer executes a non-gaming related client program 122. Further, from the description, it seems that the website host and the game program host are different which would make sense in regards to security. Thus, Wiltshire at least differs from the present invention in that the software transferred to the client from the website host can’t be executed to generate a game outcome on the client.

In Vuong (6:9-28), the game server in one of the gaming machines internally generates the outcome of each play of the selected game and the outcome is transmitted to other gaming

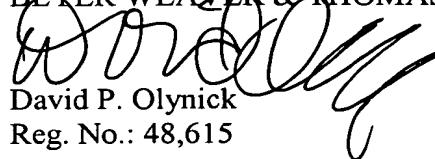
machines when the game is selected on one of the other gaming machine. Vuong differs from the present invention in that a game outcome, not game software, is transferred between gaming machines. In the present invention, using the downloaded game software, a gaming machine that has received the game software may generate the game outcome locally by executing the game software. In Vuong, it clearly states that the game server internally generates the game outcome.

In Wiltshire and Vuong, the game outcomes are always generated remotely to the gaming machine that has requested a game from the game server. Both references teach this methodology. In the present invention, a game outcome on a first gaming machine can be generated locally using downloaded game software from a second gaming machine. The combination of Wiltshire or Vuong do not teach or suggest this limitation. In the combination of Wiltshire and Vuong the game outcomes are always generated in a remote host and software is never downloaded from the remote host to a local device where the software can be executed by the local device to generate a game outcome on the local device. Therefore, for at least these reasons, Vuong can't be said to render obvious claims 1-9, 11-23 and 25-32 and the objection is believed overcome thereby.

The examiner rejected claims 10 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Wiltshire and Vuong, et al., in further View of Weiss (U.S. Patent no. 5, 611, 730). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Weiss does not describe game downloading. The combination of Vuong and Wiltshire as described above with respect to claims 1-9, 11-23 and 25-32 does not teach or suggest game downloading in the manner described for these claims. Thus, the combination of Wiltshire, Vuong and Weiss do not teach or suggest game downloading as described in claims 10 and 24. Therefore, for at least these reasons, the combination of Vuong and Weiss can't be said to render obvious claims 10 and 24 and the rejection is believed overcome thereby.

Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
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